



PRESS RELEASE

Update on Jet Fuel Supply to O.R. Tambo International Airport

Johannesburg, Thursday, 16 January 2025 – The Fuels Industry Association of South Africa, in collaboration with its stakeholders, including Transnet and the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA), is actively implementing measures to mitigate potential supply disruptions of jet fuel and other petroleum products to O.R. Tambo International Airport (ORTIA) and to the general market.

This follows report of a fire at the Natref refinery on 04 January 2025, which necessitated the shutdown of the Crude Distillation Unit (CDU) and other key processing units. We have been informed that repairs and assessments are ongoing, and the CDU restart date is estimated to be 21 February 2025.

Current jet fuel stocks at ORTIA are sufficient to meet demand until 24 January 2025. However, tightness in supply remains a concern, and if planned mitigation measures are not fully implemented, airline delivery disruptions may occur from 01 February 2025.

To address these challenges, the Association and its members have implemented several mitigation measures. These include the injection of 26,000m³ of jet fuel from Durban, with the first 9,500m³ scheduled to arrive on 21 January 2025 if all goes according to plan. We are also set to increase rail deliveries from Durban and Matola in Mozambique, with additional capacity allocated to ensure sufficient supply. Additionally, Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) has loaded 109 jet fuel tankers for ORTIA this week ending 19 January 2025.

The Fuels Industry Association of South Africa's Chief Executive, Avhaphani Tshifularo, stated, "*We are facing a challenging situation, but we wish to assure stakeholders that the Fuels Industry Association and its members are committed to maintaining fuel availability and minimising disruptions. We are working tirelessly to coordinate efforts and implement robust measures to ensure continuous operations at O.R Tambo International Airport and across the country.*"

The jet fuel suppliers have also engaged airlines to reduce demand wherever possible to help manage stock levels during this critical period.

The safety of operations and the availability of fuel remain the Associations top priorities. Further updates will be provided as the situation evolves.

ENDS

About the Association:

The Association represents the collective interests of the South African fuels industry and plays a strategic role in addressing a range of common issues relating to the refining, distribution, and marketing of liquid fuels and transportation energy products, as well as promoting the industry's environmental and socio-economic progress. The Association fulfils this role by contributing to the development of fuels industry regulation; proactively engaging with key stakeholders; sharing research information; providing expert advice; and communicating the industry's views.

Kindly note that the Fuels Industry Association of South Africa does not have an **acronym**. First mention is '**the Fuels Industry Association of South Africa**', second mention is '**the Fuels Industry Association**' or '**the Association**'.

Board of Governors:

S. Naidoo (Chairperson), A. Museisi, D. Bengu, M. Kane-Garcia, N. Chill,
O. Naidu, P. Indurjeeth, T. Mojabelo, T. Ramalebana, T. Booley, X. Sizani

For more information, please contact:

Phila Mzamo

Head: Communication

Mobile: 066 423 2319

Email: communication@fuelsindustry.org.za